



Ø BEAT



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MEETING NOTICE - Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association will meet this month on March 10th at 7:30 P.M. in the Security Savings & Loan Building, East Platte at Union Boulevard. Any person interested in Amateur radio is invited to attend.

PRESIDENT' CORNER by Bill Croghan, WBØKSW: My thanks to Ray Uberecken for a fascinating program on moonbounce last month. This month's program will deal with security and also I'd like to have more time for the homebrew and new or different equipment that various people are bringing to the meetings. Guess there will be quite a few with the new synthesizers. Bring your goodies in to share and show off.

I guess you know by now that I'm not with Radio Shack any more. I'm now hanging my commercial license at Channel Cat on Templeton Gap Road. Yup, that's mostly a C.B. and Business Band place, but the owners have been impressed with the number of hams who have come in since I've been their manager. Let them know you are a ham when you come in and maybe it'll be easier for me to talk them into carrying at least some ham gear, (and maybe buying an ad to help pay for this paper.)

Plans are progressing for a hidden transmitter hunt with Lou Preller, WØPCZ as honcho. Let Lou know you're interested and he'll let you know more. Expect a report at this meeting.

I'm feeling righteous this month as I'm getting my report into Chuck for ZERO BEAT, so I'll preach a little bit. This paper is read by hams all over the state, country and world for that matter, due to exchanges with other Amateur club newspapers and club members overseas. It keeps them in touch and is to many, the face of Colorado Springs hams. Lets keep the egg off our face, keep it shining and show them all what a great bunch of hams we are. That means getting local articles into Chuck, and on everything we are doing. That means all the committees, activities and even other clubs and organizations. I'm issuing an invitation and a challenge to the other groups interested in Amateur radio in the area to let us know what they are doing. If you feel you're not up to writing an article yourself, get in touch with me and I'll include it in my message, or get in touch with Lyle Rockefeller, WBØMDI, our publicity chairman.

ZERO BEAT

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The PPRAA meets at 7:30 P.M. on the second
Wednesday of each month in the Security
Savings & Loan Building, East Platte at
Union Boulevard.

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That's all for now except, please let me know what you want your club to do,
and then help me and the others get it done. 73's. Bill, WBØKSW

EXCELLENT AMATEUR RADIO PR has resulted from Amateur Operators' extensive on-going contribution in Guatemala. For example, WB2JSM at the Hall of Science Radio Club in Flushing, N.Y. got coverage in both the New York Daily News and New York Times plus CBS TV nationwide exposure for what ended up as a 'round the clock' message handling operation -- their volunteer phone answering crew took so much traffic that much of it had to be flown in batches to the Red Cross in Guatemala City! The Red Cross itself put out an extremely laudatory press release on the Amateur's role in the disaster, and those Amateurs who called their local papers and broadcast stations found very receptive ears -- W9JUV's call to WBBM reporting Friday noon's minor earthquake resulted in a live interview that was taped and rebroadcast throughout the day. In California, Palisades Amateur Radio Club's repeater was used to gather traffic which, as in New York, exceeded low band capacity and went partially by air to Guatemala City.

Interesting fringe benefit from Amateur Radio's Guatemalan work -- W6PJX got phone call from a local CB club while he was handling traffic with one of the TG stations. Seems they were so impressed with what they'd heard SWLing disaster traffic on 20 meters they wanted to start working on Amateur licenses!

HR REPORT

FEBRUARY MINUTES by Bart Hayhurst, WAØYOH, Secretary: The February meeting of PPRAA was held on February 11, 1976 at the Security Savings and Loan Building, Union and Platte.....The meeting was called to order by the President, Bill Croghan, WBØKSW at 7:40 P.M. with 38 members and guests attending.....Treasurer report by Dean Jaynes, WAØPJH was for \$201.95. He reported 31 paid members as of this date - approximately one half of last year's membership. Also, Dean reported a total projected income of the club for this year as \$652.00 and total projected expenditures of \$634.50, leaving uncommitted funds of only \$17.50. A discussion followed the report on ideas to hold down expenses, club projects to raise more money and how to attract more paying club members.....Ken Hull, WBØNOS and Ed Pompea, KØZPG gave a report on the club station.....Chuck Myers, WAØZCS reported on the weekly breakfast held every Saturday morning at King's Food Host and how he selected door prizes for our monthly meeting. He also reported there were 66 people at the Christmas party and after all was said and done, had a few dollars to give to the club treasury after all expenses were paid. Chuck requested that all club members engrave identification on all equipment for help in recovery in the event any equipment was stolen.....Your Secretary reported on a simple car burglar alarm.....Mike Stansberry, WBØHCK talked about field day for which this year's location will be decided on next month.....Dick Cowen, K6DBR/Ø reported on the Swapfest to be held on February 29th.....Bill Croghan reported that the novice school has moved. The new location is in the First Bank, 4050 American Drive on Templeton Gap, one block west of Academy Blvd. An average of 66 are attending the classes being held every Tuesday at 7:00 P.M.....Larry Rice, WBØKDN reported on the bent antenna of the 37/97 machine on El Madre. It will be repaired in the spring when conditions improve enough for him to get up there.....Door prize was won by the guest speaker of the evening, Ray Uberick, WØWYZ - a pocket calculator. After winning the prize, Ray gave a very informative talk on moon bounce.....Meeting was adjourned at 10.00 P.M.

10 METER REPEATERS will now be permitted according to an Order recently released by the FCC. Inputs and outputs for in-band ten meter machines must lie between 29.5 and 29.7 MHz, and cross banding to ten meters will be quite tricky since the rule change does specifically prohibit repeating the transmissions of an Amateur not authorized to operate on the 28 MHz band. WRØAFX claims to have been the first ten meter repeater on the air under the just released rules permitting such operation. The Kansas City machine went on the air with 2 meters in, ten meters out, at 0000 on February 10 -- WØHSK, WAØQJE, WAØEGG, K9COL/Ø and WAØSMG were the first to use the ten meter output mode.

A 10 Meter bandplan for the new 29.5-29.7 MHz repeater band was discussed at length during the Texas VHF FM Society's meeting last weekend. The plan, which received no formal action, leaves 29.6 as a simplex channel and puts repeaters on 100 kHz spaced pairs every 15 kHz starting with 29.515 in/29.615 out. Other 10 meter plans using 20 kHz channel separation, which follows low band commercial practice, are also being considered -- since the channelization of this band is not highly developed it's a golden opportunity to thoroughly examine all option. Don't be too surprized if the commission decides to give Technicians some sort of 10 meter privileges -- the subject was covered in Docket 20282 so could be done simply as another "deregulatory" Report, and it would get around the problem of cross-banding from Technician frequencies to 10 meters

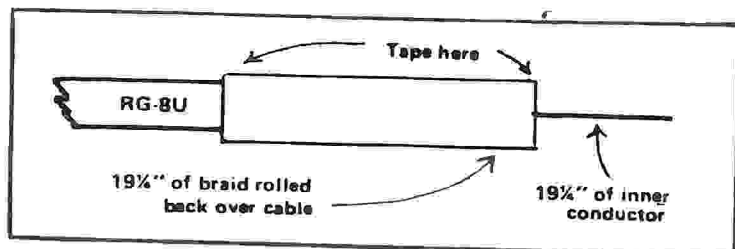
HR REPORT

U.S. AMATEUR POPULATION figures continue to be encouraging. January 1 count shows 260,092 Amateurs vs 255,392 a year ago. However, compare this to 440,000 CB license applications received by the FCC in just the month of December!

HR REPORT

MOBILE HUNT by Louie Preller, WA0PCZ: There will be a mobile transmitter hunt on two meters Sunday, March 28th. Frequency will be 52/52 direct. Area will be within Colorado Springs. Starting time is tentatively set at 1:00 P.M. Be on 52 at that time. For more details and information, be at the March club meeting.

THE STICK, SIMPLEST YET 2 METER ANTENNA by Charlie Fould, W4LZO: Simplicity is the name of this game. Here is an effective two meter antenna that can be built in a few minutes, rolled up in your car, strung from a Field Day tree, but is as good and weatherproof as most when used at home. The antenna is the basic coaxial, fashioned on the end of RG-8U cable, as shown. Start by removing cable outer sheath back 30" from the end. Reinsert the sheath under the




braid. Now carefully roll the exposed braid back over the cable, an easy job with RG-8U but fairly difficult with smaller cables like RG 58U. Stretch the braid to 19 and 1/4 inches and fasten with electrical tape. Discard sheath piece. Cut off the exposed inner conductor 19 and 1/4 inches long (no need to strip its insulation). That's all there is to it. You can add a hook on the end if you want to hang the cable from a string. For more permanent installation, mount a length (at least 6 feet) of PVC pipe capped at the top end and shove the cable end up the pipe. When mounted vertically, this antenna is omnidirectional and its gain is the same as the more complicated ground-plane. measured SWR less than 1.5 across the FM band.

FLORIDA SKIP via BOULDER QSP

KNOW A FUTURE HAM LOOKING FOR INSTRUCTION? According to many comments we have heard around the systems, perhaps the best amateur radio instruction manual available today, and one using "programmed" text, is the \$2.95 book from Radio Shack titled "From 5 watts to 1000 watts". Difficult to obtain in many of the outlets, but keep asking for a copy -- slanted to the CB'er who would much rather be an Amateur and is willing to study for the ticket, this should be in your library for teaching reference.

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LONG AWAITED RACES DOCKET has finally received FCC approval and does in effect give the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service to Radio Amateurs. In their Report and Order on Docket 19723 the Commissioners discontinued the requirement for RACES communications plans, FCC certifications and authorizations. It also permits RACES station Licenses to be issued directly to civil defense organizations, and provides for the shared use of all the Amateur frequencies by RACES on a first-come, first-served basis except during emergencies requiring invocation of the President's War Emergency Powers.

Control Operators of RACES stations will have to be licensed Amateurs, and operating privileges for RACES operators will be identical to those of the Amateur Service. Use of RACES stations will be limited to bona fide emergencies plus up to one hour per week of drills and tests. Tactical or "secret" callsigns will be abolished, and all new or renewed RACES station licenses will be assigned a WC prefix -- RACES repeaters will have WC-R-- calls. All other stations participating in RACES activities will use their regular Amateur calls.

Existing RACES stations may continue to operate under existing authorizations and the old rules until their present licenses expire. Any presently licensed RACES station whose license expires less than 18 months after the March 23, 1976 effective date of the Report and Order is also permitted to renew the present license for one additional year.

The RACES ball is now going to land squarely back in the lap of the Amateur service -- it will be most interesting to see how many Amateurs actively participate in RACES as the non-Amateurs are phased out.

HR REPORT

155.475 MHz has been designated a nationwide emergency radio channel by the FCC in an Order that became effective February 26th.

HR REPORT

FCC HAS AMENDED AMATEUR CLUB STATION requirements in an Order released in February. Applicants for a club station license will no longer need to supply a copy of the club by-laws and its constitution with the license application. In addition, the Rules were amended to include the definition of a bona fide club as one consisting of at least two members, one of them a licensed amateur, and having a name, constitution, management and an Amateur Radio primary purpose. The Order, which amends Sections 97.3 and 97.39 of the Rules, became effective February 18.

HR REPORT

TWO WAY "BIG GUNS" JOIN CB RANKS as Motorola, GE and RCA all announce new CB radios. Motorola's initial offerings are a couple of under-dash, middle price range 23-channel mobiles and a base station, all U.S. made, while GE plans its market entry with imports and will phase in domestically made production later. Motorola plans to introduce in-dash mobiles later this year. Chrysler is now offering CB radios under their MOPAR accessory label as add-on accessories for all Chrysler company car and truck lines. Three different mobiles plus two antenna packages will be available from any Chrysler dealership parts department.

HR REPORT

FCC TELEPHONE DIRECTORY (Fall, 1975 edition) has recently been released, is available for \$1 per copy. Minimum mail order is three copies from Downtown Copy Center, 1730 K St. NW, Washington D.C. 20006.

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